

**Notice of Preparation
Environmental Impact Report
Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project**

TO: Interested Agencies, Organizations, and Individuals

LEAD AGENCY: City of Hayward
Attn: Mr. Morad Fakhrai, Acting Deputy Director of Public Works
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The City of Hayward lies geographically at the heart of major commuter routes, namely, I- 880, I-580, and Route 92. Additionally, Route 238 (Mission and Foothill Boulevards) has become more congested and traffic is expected to increase by more than 30 percent over the next 20 years.

The Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project (Proposed Project) is intended to improve traffic conditions along Foothill and Mission Boulevard between Highway 580 and Industrial Parkway. The Proposed Project includes changes in circulation, changes in lane directions and controls, a downtown one way loop street system, improvements to the Foothill Blvd/Mission Blvd./Jackson Street intersection, improvements to the Mission Blvd./Carlos Bee Blvd. Intersection and other roadway improvements along Mission Blvd. Attached to this notice is a summary description of the proposed project. A more detailed project description can be obtained from the lead agency and will be available at the scoping meeting.

The City of Hayward (City) will serve as the lead agency in the preparation of a project environmental impact report (EIR) for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of an EIR is to inform decision makers and the general public about the environmental effects of the Proposed Project.

A public scoping meeting will be held on **December 8, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.**, at the **Hayward City Hall, Conference Room 2A, located at 777 B Street**. The scoping meeting will provide an opportunity for the public and other interested agencies to comment during the early stages of the environmental analysis. Comments received at the public scoping meeting will be considered in the EIR analysis.

The initial review and comment period for the project will **commence on November 21, 2005 and will conclude on January 2, 2006**. Please send comments to Morad Fakhrai, Acting Deputy Director of Public Works, at the address shown above by January 2, 2006.

Title: Environmental Impact Report, Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project

Project Location: Foothill and Mission Boulevards, City of Hayward

Project Description: Roadway and circulation improvements

Date: November 21, 2005

Proposed Project Description Summary

Route 238 Corridor Improvement Project

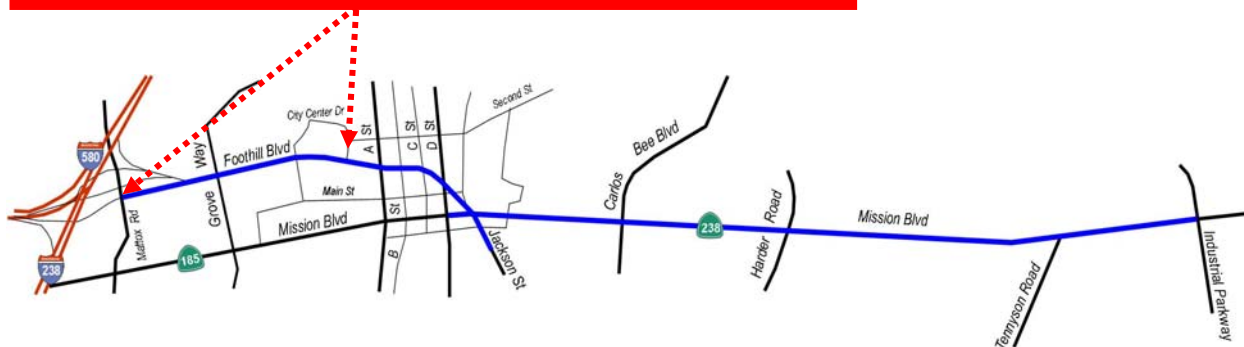
I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Proposed Project is located between Mattox Road and Industrial Parkway on Foothill Boulevard, Mission Boulevard, and other local streets. Segments of the proposed project are defined as follows:

- Segment A – Mattox Road to City Center Drive (South)
- Segment B – City Center Drive (South) to Fletcher Lane
- Segment C – Fletcher Lane to Industrial Parkway

Key features of the project are summarized as follows:

SEGMENT A – Mattox Road to City Center Drive (South)

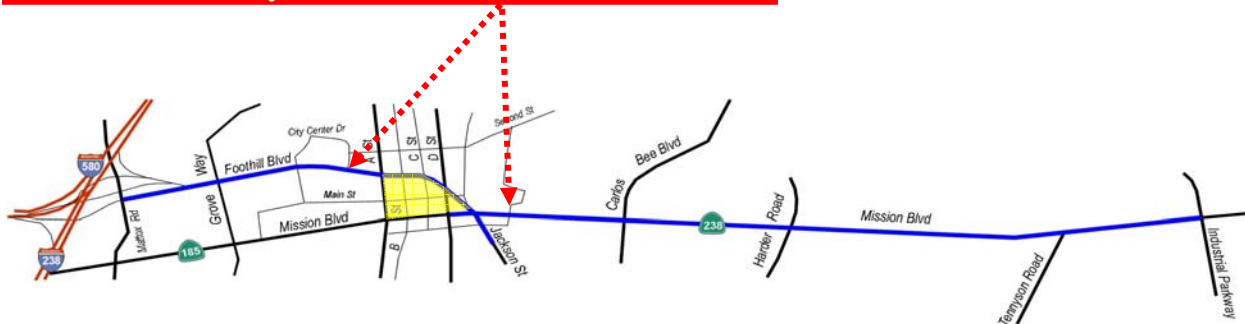


Existing Foothill Boulevard within this segment generally includes six (6) thru lanes and parking on both sides with the exception of restricted parking between Mattox Road and Grove Way. Within this segment, the west curb line and adjacent sidewalk will remain in place with all roadway modifications occurring to the east. All of the proposed improvements will be constructed within existing right of way. The predominant feature within this section is the improvement of access to the existing freeway on-ramp system to I-580.

Key proposed improvements include:

- Providing eight (8) lanes including parking/peak hour thru lanes. The parking / peak hour lane would begin and end at Grove Way for southbound and northbound traffic respectively.
- Close existing left turns to Oakview Avenue, Kimball Avenue, and Cotter Way by reconstructing the existing median islands. Access to Foothill restricted to right-in and right-out movements only.
- Reconfigure the I-580 freeway on-ramp entrance to allow for dedicated approach lanes to the entrance ramps for eastbound and westbound I-580.
- Close Apple Avenue (east side) to Foothill by constructing a cul-de-sac.
- Construct a double left turn from westbound Castro Valley Boulevard to southbound Foothill.

SEGMENT B – City Center Drive (S) to Fletcher Lane

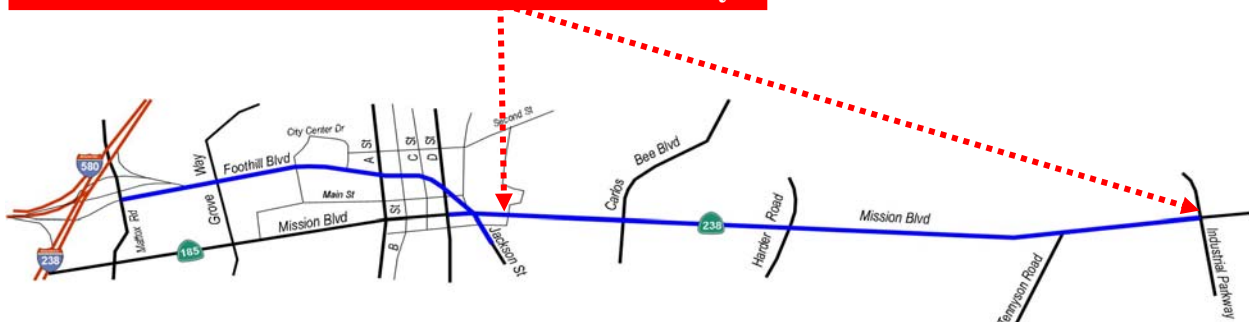


Existing Foothill Boulevard within this segment generally includes six (6) thru lanes and parking on both sides. All lane improvements will occur within existing right of way. The predominant features in this section will be implementation of a mini-loop one-way street system within the downtown area (highlighted area), widening D Street between Foothill Boulevard and Watkins Street, and grade separations at the Foothill/Mission/Jackson and Jackson/Watkins intersections.

Key proposed improvements include:

- Modify Foothill Boulevard to eight (8) lanes including parking/peak hour thru lanes from City Center Drive (South) to A Street.
- Convert Foothill Boulevard to a six (6) lane one-way northbound street between A Street and Mission Boulevard.
- Convert A Street to a five (5) lane one-way westbound street between Foothill Boulevard and Mission Boulevard.
- Convert Mission Boulevard to a five (5) lane one-way southbound street between A Street and Jackson Street.
- Convert B Street to a two-way street between Foothill Boulevard and Second Street.
- New dual left turn lanes from westbound D Street to southbound Mission Boulevard.
- Close Main Street at Foothill Boulevard.
- Connect Armstrong Street to E Street and reduce E Street to one lane.

SEGMENT C – Fletcher Lane to Industrial Parkway



Existing Mission Boulevard within this segment generally includes four (4) thru lanes with parking on both sides. Improvements will generally remain within the existing right of way but the sidewalk areas will be reduced to 7 feet to create parking/peak hour travel lanes. The predominant feature within this segment is the modification of the Carlos Bee intersection.

Key improvements include:

- Modify Mission Boulevard from four (4) to six (6) lanes including parking/peak hour thru lanes.
- Widen Mission Boulevard at Carlos Bee to provide dual left turn lanes from southbound Mission to eastbound Carlos Bee, dual left turn lanes from westbound Carlos Bee to southbound Mission, and dual left turn lanes from eastbound Orchard Avenue to northbound Mission.
- Close Central Boulevard at Mission and Belmont Avenue. Access to existing residences or businesses between Belmont and Mission will be provided.
- Extend Berry Avenue west across Mission east to Belmont Avenue creating a new signalized intersection at Mission and Berry Avenue. Close Berry Avenue (East) at Mission and Belmont Avenue.
- Provide for dual left turns to Mission by reconstructing the median islands within Harder Road
- Remove the signal and the southbound left turn lane at Jefferson Street.
- Provide a southbound left turn access into the existing Moreau High School driveway. Install a traffic signal to coordinate left turns into the driveway with traffic movements at the Calhoun intersection.
- Convert Kellogg Avenue, Broadway Street, Douglas Street, Webster Street, and Monticello Street to right-in, right-out movements only by constructing a raised median island along Mission.

II. PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Consistent with the requirements of CEQA, the primary purpose of the Project EIR will be to analyze the Project's potential environmental effects; inform decision makers, other responsible agencies, and members of the public regarding the range of environmental impacts potentially associated with the Project; and recommend measures to mitigate any significant adverse impacts. The EIR will analyze the preferred alternative and other Project alternatives identified during the screening process.

The Project's impacts may include, but may not be limited to, effects in the following areas.

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| ■ Agricultural resources. | ■ Air quality. |
| ■ Biological resources. | ■ Cultural resources. |
| ■ Hazardous Materials | ■ Hydrology and water quality. |
| ■ Land use and planning. | ■ Mineral resources. |
| ■ Noise. | ■ Public services. |
| ■ Recreation. | ■ Soils, geology, and seismicity. |
| ■ Transportation and traffic. | ■ Utilities. |
| ■ Visual resources. | |

III. OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The City welcomes public involvement throughout the environmental review processes for the Project. The initial public review and comment period will begin on November 21, 2005 and end on December 21, 2005, and will include a public scoping meeting scheduled to take place on December 8, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hayward City Hall, Conference Room 2A, located at 777 B Street. Individuals, organizations, and agencies who wish to be included on the Project mailing list should contact Morad Fakhrai, Acting Deputy Director of Public Works at the address listed above. Information on the project is also available on the City's website at: www.hayward-ca.gov